

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF VERMONT

PATRICK DEBONVILLE, )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
v. ) Docket No. 2:20-cv-00163  
 )  
JAMES BAKER, *et al*, )  
Defendants. )

**DEFENDANTS' ANSWER TO COMPLAINT**

NOW COME Defendants, by and through Vermont Attorney General Thomas J. Donovan, Jr. and undersigned counsel, and hereby answer Plaintiff's amended complaint.

1. Defendants assert that this is a conclusory statement that does not require a response; to the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.
2. Defendants lack knowledge and information sufficient to enable them to either admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, therefore, Defendants deny the same.
3. Admitted that Plaintiff was incarcerated by the Vermont Department of Corrections (hereafter "the Department"). Denied that Plaintiff remains incarcerated at the time of this filing.
4. Admitted that James Baker is the Commissioner of the Department. As to the remainder of the allegations contained herein, Defendants assert that these are conclusory statements that does not require a response; to the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.

5. Admitted that David Turner is an employee of the Department. As to the remainder of the allegations contained herein, Defendants assert that these are conclusory statements that do not require a response; to the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.
6. Defendants lack knowledge and information sufficient to enable them to either admit or deny the vague allegations in this paragraph, therefore, Defendants deny the same.
7. Defendants lack knowledge and information sufficient to enable them to either admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, therefore, Defendants deny the same.
8. Denied.
9. Denied.
10. Denied.
11. Denied.
12. Denied.
13. Denied.
14. Denied.
15. Denied.
16. Denied.
17. Denied.
18. Denied.
19. Denied.
20. Denied.
21. Defendants assert that the statements contain herein are conclusory statements that do not require a response; to the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.

**AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

1. Failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
2. Lack of subject matter jurisdiction.
3. Failure to exhaust administrative remedies.
4. Improper venue.
5. Failure to prove harm.
6. Failure to prove personal involvement.
7. Absolute immunity.
8. Sovereign immunity.
9. Official immunity.
10. Qualified immunity.

DATED at Waterbury, Vermont this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR.  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Counsel for Defendants